

**Parish of the Resurrection, Alton**

**Meeting of Parochial Church Council – Tuesday 11th October 2022**

**All Saints Church Hall - 6.00 pm**

**Present:** Revd Andrew Micklefield (AM) Chair, Alan Armstrong (AA), Tori Hewitt (TH), Sarah Neish (SN) , Angie Briggs (AB), Derek Gurney (DG), Clive Muller (CM), Revd Gordon Randall (GR) & Helen Walters (HW), Robin Kemp (RK), Lisa Hillan (LH)

**Apologies :** Revd Wendy Burnhams, John Vivian, Matthew Bayliss, Elspeth Mackeggie-Gurney

**In attendance:** Philippa Penfold (PCC Secretary)

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|  | | **Action** |
|  | **The meeting opened with prayers.** |  |
|  | **Conflicts of interest**  None |  |
| **1** | **Minutes of the last meeting – 12th September 2022, plus 13th June 2022.**  Agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair. No matters arising. |  |
| **2** | **PCC Groups**  **Admin & Finance Report** taken first (as TH had to leave early)  HW updated the meeting as to change of personnel on the Admin & Finance Committee. HW now chair. An appeal has been made for new members.  Chris Scawan is willing to take on the Stewardship role and Tori is providing the necessary details.  Colin Aiken (CA) remains in the background and continues to work on the utility and other financial issues – acting as Treasurer.  TH outlined the email sent on 8th Oct 22 by CA. The A&F committee will look the best way to present the figures and make recommendations on how to present future reports.  SN asked why the St P wall repairs had not been included – TH said the funds shown were the General Fund not specific for St P’s.  **Utilities – gas and electric pricing** – PCC had agreed to use Utility Aid. Circa £64,000 projected utility costs for next year. Electric pricing – circa. £26-27,000. New figures have arrived today which need further analysis. Approximate doubling of costs from previous year. Best way is to reduce the consumption across the parish. PCC have produced a list of priorities which can be worked through. Message to wear more clothing has already been sent out – maybe some more blankets could be provided for visitors who may not be aware. Suggestion to keep churches at 13-15 degrees all the time to keep the damp out, and then increase for specific services. Timers can be used to ensure heating is only turned on when needed.  All costs to be monitored over the next month and reported back to the next meeting.  More communication needed to explain why we have to do this. Some may be able to donate more to help with the running costs.  Blankets not sold in the Jardinique shop can be donated. SN to distribute to each church.  **Warm Spaces** – AM had met with Alton Town Council and other local organisations who are looking to provide warm spaces for people to come and warm up if they have no heating at home. Suggestion was that this would work better if this coincided with existing meetings/events happening in POTR, e.g. Teddies, coffee mornings, board game afternoons, etc. A spreadsheet is being prepared to look at all these opportunities across the town.  The spreadsheet will be compiled and distributed by ATC with all organisations to further share the information.  **Community & Outreach** – RK had previously circulated the minutes of the last meeting. Marquee used during the summer is available to buy but storage is an issue. AwayDay has been rescheduled to Sat 15th April 2023 (potential clash with other events). Pop Up Carols will happen again (later agenda item). Lent Course at Maltings starting 9th March 2023.  Paths – who will be maintaining the eco wildflower meadow? To be referred to Eco Team.  **Local Church Groups** –  St L – all LED lights apart from Galilee Chapel and Chancel has been done. Path Faculty 12th Oct – no one has commented.  St P – decorator has disappeared and cannot now be contacted. Contract has been cancelled and two other decorators have been contacted and are providing quotes. Lovely Harvest service with over 30 people.  HR – bees cannot be removed from vestry roof until March as all furniture has to be removed before the removal. List B approval is in place. Arthur has repaired the gate. Thanks were expressed for this work.  AS – Butts Church sharing more with AS despite the lack of legal agreement. Butts Church are trying to set up a standing order for the regular payment. Congregation members are attending Butts Church services. CM to ask Glen McCaul to look at lighting in AS church. Butts Church would be willing to discuss more help with utility costs when more info is known. | TH  PCC members  SN  Eco Team |
| **3** | **Service Pattern Review Responses**  Meeting was held on 29 September – RK reported that most felt the approach was right. Length of services could be shorter. Clergy well-being was seen as important.  Four things to take forward (see AM paper):   * Pattern could now stay until any change to clergy team. * Clergy well-being covenant should be expanded to include all those who serve, not just clergy. AM to provide the covenant for comment. * Need to train more people across the parish, and include BLS and others in the deanery. Paper from Brian Pritchard, Rural Area Dean, to be circulated to all PCC. * Statistical review of service attendance over the last 3-5 years. How else have we grown in this time? How can we measure this? Covid has had a big impact during this period.   This will be a living document and not set in stone. Will be reviewed on regular basis. Good communication is key. AM and GR will put this into a statement to be used for communication in Sunrise/PM and during services. | AM  SN  AM/GR |
| **4** | **Alton Resilience Fund**  Paper had been circulated by AM to PCC members. This was set up during pandemic but now is to be wind this down due to ATC not being able to hold the funds. But is there still a need and should the churches take this over? How will this be managed and who should administer it? What is the need long/medium/short term?  LH presented some figures on the current Resilience fund level, and who had donated. Money given for Ukraine support is now rapidly dwindling. LH would be happy to continue to support this initiative. Applicants have to be backed by a referrer. Can one of the local churches hold the funds on behalf of the group – is this allowed? Need to know how much time is currently taken by ATC to administer the fund. Important not to overload staff and volunteers with more work who may not have capacity.  **LH agreed to discuss this further, on behalf of POTR, with other local church representatives, and see what is needed to take this further. ALL AGREED**  SN suggested that our mission giving should be looked at again so that a proportion be given to this initiative. DG also suggested that Resurrection Furniture could also be approached for a grant. | LH |
| **5** | **Pop Up Carols**  Alton Churches keen to do this again to include Holybourne, Barley Fields and Hop Fields, plus the Racecourse could be offered by POTR. Other areas would be covered by other churches in Alton. We would help with publicity, including leaflets before the event.  AM to provide the service plan around Christmas.  Christmas Tree Festival – 10/11th December ending with a Christingle Service. | AM |
|  | DG made a short statement regarding his resignation from the A&F Committee. |  |
| **6** | The meeting concluded with prayers at 7.45pm  **Data of next meeting –10th November 2022** |  |

**PP/11/10/22**